

LISTING OF THE CLAIMS

► The following listing of claims replaces all prior listing of claims in the application:

Claim 1 (presently amended): A cover for a medical probe comprising:

a first panel member defining a first side, a second side, a first end and a second end; and

a second panel member defining a first side, a second side, a first end and a second end, said first panel first side and said second panel first side being secured one to another and said first panel second side and said second panel second side being secured one to another whereby said cover defines a tubular configuration having a cover first end and a cover second end, said first panel first end being folded over prior to securement to said second panel member to define a double thickness, and said second panel member first end being folded over prior to securement to said first panel member to define a double thickness; and

a throat defined proximate said cover first end and within a region where said first panel member defines said double thickness and said second panel member defines said double thickness, said cover being tapered from said cover first end to said throat to define a funnel configuration, said throat being adapted to closely receive a distal end of ~~the medical probe~~ a medical probe, said double thickness of each of said first and second panel members providing sufficient resiliency to maintain said cover on the distal end of ~~the medical probe~~ a medical probe without necessitating further retaining means, whereby as a medical probe is inserted into said cover and directed into and through said throat, and as said cover second end is pulled to invert said cover up to said throat, a sterile inside surface of said cover and a distal end of the medical probe are revealed.

Claim 2 (cancelled)

1 **Claim 3 (presently amended):** The cover of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1 wherein said throat
2 defines a width adapted to be less than one-half the circumference of the medical probe
3 distal end.

1 **Claim 4 (presently amended):** The cover of ~~claim 2~~ claim 1 wherein said cover
2 first end defines a funnel configuration from said cover first end to said throat, whereby
3 the medical probe distal end is directed toward said throat upon insertion into said
4 cover first end.

1 **Claim 5 (original):** The cover of claim 1 wherein said first panel member first
2 end extends beyond said second panel member first end, an extended portion being
3 defined between said first panel member first end and said second panel member first
4 end to facilitate opening said cover first end.

1 **Claim 6 (original):** The cover of claim 1 wherein said cover second end is at least
2 partially inverted to facilitate application of said cover on the medical probe.

1 **Claim 7 (original):** The cover of claim 1 wherein said cover is fabricated from a
2 material having elastomeric properties whereby said cover returns to an initial size and
3 shape after being stretched.

1 **Claim 8 (presently amended):** A cover for a medical probe comprising:
2 a first panel member defining a first side, a second side, a first end and a second
3 end;
4 a second panel member defining a first side, a second side, a first end and a
5 second end, said first panel first side and said second panel first side being secured one
6 to another and said first panel second side and said second panel second side being
7 secured one to another whereby said cover defines a tubular configuration having a
8 cover first end and a cover second end, said first panel first end being folded over prior
9 to securement to said second panel member to define a double thickness, and said

10 second panel member first end being folded over prior to securement to said first panel
11 member to define a double thickness, said first panel member first end extending
12 beyond said second panel member first end, an extended portion being defined
13 between said first panel member first end and said second panel member first end to
14 facilitate opening said cover first end; and

15 a throat defined proximate said cover first end and within a region where said
16 first panel member defines said double thickness and said second panel member
17 defines said double thickness, said cover being tapered from said cover first end to said
18 throat to define a funnel configuration, said throat being adapted to closely receive a
19 distal end of ~~the medical probe~~ a medical probe, said double thickness of each of said
20 first and second panel members providing sufficient resiliency to maintain said cover
21 on the distal end of ~~the medical probe~~ a medical probe without necessitating further
22 retaining means, whereby as a medical probe is inserted into said cover and directed
23 into and through said throat, and as said cover second end is pulled to invert said cover
24 up to said throat, a sterile inside surface of said cover and a distal end of the medical
25 probe are revealed.

1 **Claim 9 (original):** The cover of claim 8 wherein said throat defines a width
2 adapted to be less than one-half the circumference of the medical probe distal end.

1 **Claim 10 (original):** The cover of claim 8 wherein said cover first end defines a
2 funnel configuration from said cover first end to said throat, whereby the medical probe
3 distal end is directed toward said throat upon insertion into said cover first end.

1 **Claim 11 (original):** The cover of claim 8 wherein said cover second end is at
2 least partially inverted to facilitate application of said cover on the medical probe.

1 **Claim 12 (original):** The cover of claim 8 wherein said cover is fabricated from a
2 material having elastomeric properties whereby said cover returns to an initial size and
3 shape after being stretched.

1 **Claim 13 (presently amended):** A method for fabricating a cover for a medical
2 probe, said method comprising the steps of:
3 (a) providing a first panel member defining a first end and a second end;
4 (b) folding said first panel member first end under said first panel member to
5 define a double thickness;
6 (c) positioning a second panel member defining a first end and a second end over
7 said first panel member;
8 (d) folding said second panel member first end over said second panel member
9 to define a double thickness; and
10 (e) securing said first panel member and said second panel member to define a
11 cover first side and a cover second side, whereby a tubular configuration having a cover
12 first end and a cover second end is defined, said step of securing said first panel
13 member and said second panel member including the step of defining a throat
14 proximate said cover first end and within a region in which said first panel member
15 defines said double thickness and said second panel member defines said double
16 thickness, said cover being tapered from said cover first end to said throat to define a
17 funnel configuration, said throat being adapted to closely receive a distal end of ~~the~~
18 ~~medical probe~~ a medical probe, said double thickness of each of said first and second
19 panel members providing sufficient resiliency to maintain said cover on the distal end
20 of the ~~the medical probe~~ a medical probe without necessitating further retaining means,
21 whereby as a medical probe is inserted into said cover and directed into and through
22 said throat, and as said cover second end is pulled to invert said cover up to said throat,
23 a sterile inside surface of said cover and a distal end of the medical probe are revealed.

Claim 14 (cancelled)

1 **Claim 15 (presently amended):** The method of ~~claim 14~~ claim 13 wherein said
2 throat defines a width adapted to be less than one-half the circumference of the medical
3 probe distal end.

1 **Claim 16 (presently amended):** The method of ~~claim 14~~ claim 13 wherein said
2 step of securing said first panel member and said second panel member further
3 includes the step of defining a funnel configuration from said cover first end to said
4 throat, whereby the medical probe distal end is directed toward said throat upon
5 insertion into said cover first end.

1 **Claim 17 (original):** The method of claim 13 wherein said step of folding said
2 second panel member first end includes the step of defining an extended portion of said
3 first panel member first end by folding said second panel member first end such that
4 said first panel member first end extends beyond said second panel member first end.

1 **Claim 18 (original):** The method of claim 13 further including the step of
2 inverting at least a portion of said cover second end to facilitate application of said
3 cover on the medical probe.